Smith, F., 1852
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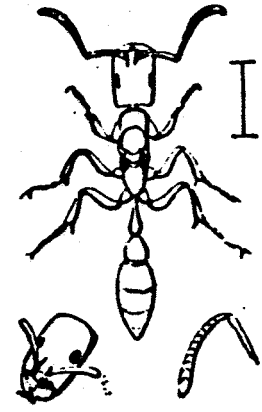
VI.—*Descriptions of some Hymenopterous Insects captured in India, with notes on their Œconomy, by* Ezra T. Downes, Esq., *who presented them to the Honourable the East India Company.* By Frederick Smith, Assistant Zoological Department, British Museum.

Genus Tetraponera.

Head elongate, sides parallel, the vertex slightly emarginate; eyes ovate, lateral, stemmata three, situated on the vertex; the antennæ 12-jointed, geniculate, subclavate, inserted in the sides of a raised prominence above the base of the clypeus; the mandibles stout, dentate, subarcuate, very broad at their apex, apical teeth crossing, slightly narrowed at their base. Thorax elongate, obtusely rounded at base and apex; legs moderate in length. Abdomen elongate, the two basal segments constricted, forming two nodes, the first half the width of the second; petiole elongate ovate, the second segment globose, the remaining portion of the abdomen elongate ovate.

Tetraponera atrata.



Female (length 4½ lines) black, shining, the antennæ dark fusco-ferruginous, the basal joint one-third of their entire length; the mandibles rugose, pubescent, their apical tooth long and acute; the prothorax transverse in front, the anterior coxæ dilated, compressed at their sides, the claws rufo-testaceous, the calcaria testaceous. The abdomen has here and there a long hair or bristle, particularly on the first node of the abdomen and at the apex, the margins of the fourth and fifth segments narrowly piceous at their apical margins.

Hab. Bombay.

This insect as far as I know is unique, nor will it fall into any established genus; in some characters it approaches *Myrmecia*, the abdomen closely resembling that of the insects of that genus, but the head and thorax are totally different, there being no constriction between the meso- and meta-thorax; it also approaches the *Condylodon* of Lund in having short stout toothed mandibles, but it has small lateral eyes similar to *Ponera*. I should therefore assign it a place between *Ponera* and *Condylodon*.

1852 R M Bohart

[Jan. 1852]

I am only acquainted with one other species belonging to this genus; it is from South America, and is in the National Collection at the British Museum. I subjoin a description of the insect in a note *.

Genus Hedychrum.

Hedychrum rugosa, n. s.

Length 3 lines. Head and thorax golden green, rugose-punctate; the eyes, antennæ and tegulæ black, the scape of the antennæ tinged with green; the tarsi rufo-piceous, the punctures on the scutellum and metathorax very large. The abdomen is green with a blue reflection, much more finely punctured than the thorax, except the sides of the basal segment which are rugose.

Hab. Poona.

Genus Chrysis.

Chrysis pubescens, n. s.

Length 3½ lines. Head and thorax brassy-green, rugose-punctate; the eyes and antennæ black, except the basal joint, which is brassy-green; the anterior margin of the prothorax deeply incurved, receiving the vertex of the head, the metathorax produced laterally into obtuse spines; the tegulæ and legs brassy-green, the tarsi rufo-testaceous; the wings dark fuscous, somewhat paler at their apical margins. Abdomen green, with a blue reflection, the apical segment chalybeous, quadridentate; the whole abdomen deeply punctured, and having, as well as the head and thorax, a short thin pubescence.

Hab. Bombay.

This species is parasitic on *Pelopæus*; the following are Capt. Downes's remarks: "A nest of *Pelopæus* was taken on the wall of my room; several of the cells were broken down whilst removing them, and various sorts of spiders fell out; one of the cells was a little denuded of its mud, so that I could see inside; this hole was repaired next day by a thin substance like talc, and

* *Tetraponera testacea.*

Female (length 3½ lines) testaceous, smooth and shining; the head elongate, truncate in front and behind, slightly emarginate at the vertex, a shallow impressed line running from the anterior stemma to the base of the antennæ, where it terminates in a deep sulcation carinate on its sides; the eyes black, the mandibles ferruginous, roughly channelled longitudinally with irregular striations, the teeth black; the mesothorax is darker than the rest of the thorax, and has a longitudinal scratch on each side; the metathorax is rounded posteriorly, very smooth and shining; the abdomen has a few scattered long hairs at its apex, and also on both its nodes; the third segment is also slightly constricted.

Hab. Napo, S. America.

In the collection of the British Museum.